

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

HB 6 - SB 229

April 30, 2021

SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL: Requires the Tennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC) to establish a four-year pilot program, beginning with the 2021-2022 academic year, to award completion grants to Tennessee Promise scholarship students who are eligible for and receiving services as part of the college coaching initiative delivered by the Tennessee Promise partnering organizations, and who have an immediate financial need or who are experiencing a financial hardship that may prevent the student from completing a postsecondary degree or credential. Delegates, to the Tennessee Promise partnering organizations, the responsibility to identify the students who are eligible for a completion grant. Authorizes THEC to contract with one or more entities to administer some of all portion of the pilot program.

Requires THEC to: (1) collect and analyze data involving students who applied for or received a completion grant as part of this pilot program; (2) award no more than \$250,000 in completion grants each year of the program; and (3) only use funds appropriated to THEC from the General Fund to award completion grants. Stipulates guidelines regarding annual funding and processes for any unexpended funds.

Requires THEC to submit an annual report on the outcomes of the pilot program to the Education Committee of the Senate and to the Education Committee of the House of Representatives by December 31, 2022, and no later than December 31 of each remaining year of the pilot program.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

Increase State Expenditures - \$250,000/Each FY21-22 through FY24-25

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (008070): Requires THEC to use funding available from the unexpended balance of the Qualified Work-Based Learning Grant Fund.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Increase State Expenditures – \$250,000/Each FY21-22 through FY24-25/
Qualified Work-Based Learning Grant Fund

The FY21-22 General Appropriations Act has appropriated \$1,000,000 in non-recurring state funds for the sole purpose of awarding completion grants as required by this legislation.

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- The FY21-22 General Appropriations Act has appropriated \$1,000,000 in non-recurring state funds to THEC for the sole purpose of awarding completion grants.
- The proposed legislation limits total expenditures for the completion grant to \$250,000 annually; therefore, the increase in state expenditures from the Qualified Work-Based Learning Grant Fund is estimated to be \$250,000 in each FY21-22 through FY24-25.
- The annual allocation for the pilot program will be awarded in full and there will not be a significant amount of unspent funds in any given year.
- Any increase in expenditures for THEC to establish and administer the pilot program is estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

/lm